

Response to Concerns - CFC/United Way

Office of Personnel Management

Office of CFC Operations

Dear CFC Donor:

In response to the issues surrounding the United Way of the National Capital Area (UWNCA) and its involvement with the National Capital Area Combined Federal Campaign, I want to assure you that OPM Director Kay Coles James is taking the situation very seriously and taking all steps that need to be taken to ensure that donations are being safeguarded.

As such, the Director has asked the Inspector General to conduct a detailed audit of UWNCA administration of CFC funds. In accordance with OPM regulations, the UWNCA is required to keep its CFC operations, including financial activities, separate from non-CFC operations. To affirm the importance of keeping CFC activities distinct and separate, a September 3rd memorandum from the Director of OPM instructed Federal personnel throughout all 362 campaigns to suspend any participation on boards of directors of local campaign organizations to avoid potential conflicts of interest.

While the audit aims to assess past practices, we will do whatever is necessary to ensure the integrity of the CFC and to preserve the continuing confidence of those federal employees and organizations which participate.

As you consider your participation in the CFC this year, it is vital to consider that withdrawal of CFC contributions will adversely affect those least responsible for the events of the past months - hundreds of charities that now depend on your contributions through the CFC to meet community needs.

Nothing less than total accountability and transparency is needed to maintain the trust of donors and stability of the program. This is our pledge to all donors.

I look forward to your continued support of the CFC.

Sincerely,

Mara T. Paternoster
Director
Office of CFC Operations